Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) An instrument for positioning a cup component of an orthopaedic joint prosthesis, the cup component having a mouth and an inner surface with a circumferential groove, the instrument comprising:

a shaft having a shaft axis and a distal end;

a housing attached to the distal end of the shaft, the housing extending from the shaft transversely relative to the shaft axis, the housing comprising a base plate;

at least two flange portions carried on the shaft, each of the at least two flange portions being configured to move relative to the base plate in a direction transverse to the shaft axis between an in-use position, where at least a portion of each of the at least two flange portions is received in the groove of the cup component, and a retracted position where the at least a portion of each of the at least two flange portions is moved towards the shaft axis so as to allow the cup component to be released from the instrument; and

a spring element disposed between the at least two flange portions and the axis of the shaft, the spring element biasing each of the at least two flange portions towards the in-use position.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the housing further comprises an opposing plate, and the flange portion is slidably disposed between the base plate and the opposing plate.

4. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the base plate is planar and has a plate surface and each of the at least two flange portions is planar and has a flange surface,

and the plate surface of the base plate and flange surface of the flange portions are configured to slide relative to one another in the direction transverse to the shaft axis.

5. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the spring element is formed from a non-metallic material.

6. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the spring element is compressed elastically by each of the at least two flange portions when the flange portions are moved from the in-use position towards the retracted position.

7. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 6, wherein the spring element comprises an O-ring.

8. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein each of the at least two flange portions is formed from a non-deformable material.

9. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein each of the at least two flange portions is formed from a metal.

10. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the base plate has a surface configured to engage the mouth of the cup component to apply force to the cup component when the flange portions are in the in-use position.

11. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein each of the at least two flange portions comprise a chamfered edge that is configured to contact the inner surface of the cup component when the flange portions are in the in-use position.

12. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the at least two flange portions comprise at least three radially spaced apart flange portions.

13. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, further comprising a soft cap at least partially disposed about the shaft and positioned between the at least two flange portions and the distal end of the shaft.

14. (Previously Presented) An assembly, comprising an instrument as claimed in claim 1, and a cup component of a joint prosthesis.

15. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the base plate has at least two base plate holes and each of the at least two flange portions has at least one flange hole, and further comprising a collar having at least two pins extending distally from the collar, the collar slidably connected to the shaft so as to slide between a first position, where the at least two flange portions are in the in-use position, and a second position, where one of the at least two pins are at least partially disposed within one of the at least two base plate holes and one of the at least two flange holes.

16. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 15, wherein each of the at least two flange portions has an upstand configured to contact the spring element, the upstand being displaced towards the shaft axis when the collar is in the second position to thereby move the at least two flange portions from the in-use position to the retracted position.

17. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 16, wherein, when the collar is in the second position, the upstands of the at least two flange portions compress the spring element.

18. (Previously Presented) The instrument of claim 15, wherein the at least two flange portions and the base plate are configured such that, when the collar is in the first position, the at least two base plate holes and the at least two flange holes are not aligned.

19. (New) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the spring element is disposed circumferentially about the shaft axis.

20. (New) The instrument of claim 1, wherein the at least two flange portions are spaced apart radially with respect to one another relative to the shaft axis.